

- 1. Who is the writer and/or speaker?
- 2. When was it written and/or said?
- 3. To whom was it written and/or spoken?
- 4. What are the major natural divisions?
- 5. What is the <u>repeated</u> key word?
- 6. What simple sentence sums it all up?
- 7. What is an application to my life today?

2nd Thessalonians

- The writer : The apostle Paul (1:1 & 3:7) signs and finishes his first letter (1Th1:1 & 2:18) with the same style (cf 1Th1:2 & 2Th1:3) and the same subject of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ and its implications for our life (cf 1Th1:10 & 2Th1:17; 1Th2:9, 4:10-12 & 2Th3:6-14). He is worried about some false teachings (2:1-3, 3:6 & 10-11) and the division that they would produce (3:14-15).
- 2. The date : As a reminder (2:5) of his first letter (3:6) and his stay in Thessalonica (2:5 & 3:7-10), Paul had to take back up his pen (3:14) the same year, 50 AD. We know this because the same people are with him (cf 1Th1:1 & 2Th1:1) and this never happened again.
- **3.** The readers : The church in Thessalonica is addressed first (1:1 & 3) but, by obvious links with his first letter, all Christians are addressed in this second letter (1Th5:27).
- 4. The natural divisions : <u>Three</u> clarifications about "the Day of the Lord" :

Ch1 There will at <u>last</u> be justice on this earth, 1:10. Ch2 There will <u>first</u> be the rapture of the Christians, 2:2. Ch3 There is <u>meanwhile</u> the necessity to work hard, 3:8.

- 5. The key repeated words : The "Day" of the Lord. (Cf 1:10, 2:2 & 3:8)
- 6. The message : "He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day." 2Th1:10
- 7. The application : Despite the persecution of Christians and while waiting for the rapture of the church before the end time... "Do not grow weary of doing good." 2Th3:13

Personal Observations :